Forensic Psychology CASE Studies

STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT (United States International University Africa)

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FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGY CASE STUDIES

INSTITUTIONAL AFFILIATION

STUDENT NAME

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Introduction

As noted by the American Psychological Community, diagnostic psychology uses medical expertise from the legal field. This definition emphasizes the use of medical psychology in the criminal system. The use of investigative psychology, and the common role of psychologists of psychological research, is the psychological evaluation of people involved in the legal system (Ward, 2013). Prosecution is one of the conditions under which court psychologists should be involved in evaluation and require them to give evidence in court. This is a controversial topic. Appropriate when it comes to APA protocol standards. This article will address the topics discussed, discuss human rights in relation to the conflict, and explain the possible moral implications for both sides of the conflict (APA, 2019).

case study 1

Forensic Psychology In Assessments Related To Death Sentence Cases

In 2010, the United States Psychological Association (APA) revised its code of conduct, Standard Guidance 1.02, due to differences in ethics and law and concerns about the involvement of psychologists in military investigations at US detention centers such as Guantanamo Bay. and Abu Ghraib. controversy. In a changed language, the psychologist must follow ethical principles and try to plan the situation properly and prevent him from engaging in activities. However, it indicates or protects human rights violations (Fisher, 2013)

“The death penalty is the ultimate punishment; consequently, the U.S. Supreme Court has provided defendants certain rights. One specific group of offenders is the mentally retarded” (Fabian, 2005). According to (Ward, 2013), legally, a person cannot be held responsible for a crime if he/she did not possess a “guilty mind” at the time the criminal act was committed. Here

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the forensic psychologist plays an essential role in order to evaluate the defendant and confirm if he is able to stand a trial and competent also if he was conscious at the time of the crime and was aware that what he did is illegal, plead guilty, future danger and competent to be executed. The debate is whether it is ethically appropriate for a forensic psychologist to play this role. Will the results be consistent. Does such involvement have an element of subjectivity that makes it unfair due to the lack of consistency in the process, leading to inconsistent results? The other concerning point is the assessment and evaluation reliability.

In 2002, in *Atkins v. Virginia,* the Supreme Court ruled that prosecutors could not bring capital cases against defendants who had been deemed mentally retarded, as it was unconstitutional (Fisher, 2017).Since then the psychological assessments played an essential part in the death penalty cases for insane defendants. There is a data saying that most of the defendants how have death penalty cases are often intellectually deficient. “One study indicated that nearly 27 percent of the death row inmates they sampled obtained IQ scores in the mentally retarded or borderline range of intelligence” (Fabian, 2005).

On the other hand, some people argue that APA should have a clear standard that prevents forensic psychologists from getting involved in those cases (Brodsky et al., 2013). Before a psychologist decide whether a defendant should be executed or not, he has to ask himself first if the death penalty violates the human right. In that case, a psychologist is prohibited from interfering in such practice to comply with the APA ethical standard 1.02. At the same time, other people reply to this, saying that the defendant already violated others' human rights when he murdered them, and it will be fair that he get executed due to the crime he committed. Speaking of Horace Kelly case, it was proved that he is mentally ill, however some psychologists said that

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he is competent to stand a trial, hence, he was executed and there was a huge debate on whether he should or should have not been executed.

Applicable Ethical Standards

When a psychologist decides to get involved in the death penalty cases, he must consider the following APA ethics standards to avoid committing any violation and stay compliant. APA ethical standard 2.03 Maintaining Competence, as the forensic psychologist has to ensure that he gets the training needed on both legal and psychology sides to ensure that he is competent and his evaluation results will be reliable. The psychologist has to ensure that he is not biased and that he has not any unfair discrimination based on age, religion, gender..etc 3.01 as being biased will impact the results accuracy and will lead to an ethical violation. Regarding the assessment and evaluations, 9.02, 9.03, 9.04 APA ethical standards provide some guidelines that the psychologist has to consider when assessing the defendant as he has to ensure assessment validity. He has to use assessment methods that are appropriate to an individual's language preference. Psychologist also has to inform the defendant about the nature and the purpose of the assessment and that the data will be shared with other legal parties as required by law.

case study 2

Explosions at Radio City Music Hall Case

The classification of crime profiles has been the basis of an investigative process since the 1940s, though less widely known. Crime files have initially been versions of files used to support police investigations when they relied entirely on psychiatrists to create criminal

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profiles. An incident occurred that used this information to make an accurate document of a criminal (James Brussels), who the NYPD summoned to investigate information about the Mad Bomber in New York City, NY. You know how James Brussels got to the Office of Information and Investigation (FBI) and then created an analysis process based on the process prepared by Brussels. (Ramsland, Katherine)

In the 1950s, every book on the summary of the case provided a shocking insight into the minds of criminals, but it marked a historical change in the FBI's plans for the future. About 30 volcanic eruptions occurred in New York in the 1940s and 1950s, such as the Grand Central Terminal and Radio City Music Hall; The perpetrators had sent several angry letters to local newspapers, politicians and corporate companies before the explosions, believing that "insanity is frequent", Drs. Brussels believes the information is related to the crime and sends it to the police. The information he gives, the offender's intent, approximate age, ethnicity, living environment, embezzlement, personal performance, employment status and their casual attire — these are "two breasts" (Ramsland, Katherine).

The offender was an experienced mechanic. PhD. Brussels said he also hinted that he was insulting others. He was working for a service company called Con Edison and received two letters, his anger escalating over time with no way out. Dr Brussels thinks he may be living with a sister or aunt in New Hampshire, Maine or Connecticut. (Ramsland, Katherine)

The psychological factors behind the crime profile include a variety of factors, including childhood upbringing, traumatic events or types of mental illness. There are many things one can get into these three things. Examining this information will help you better understand what criminals need to know.

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A crime film is a behavioural and investigative tool designed to help detectives identify criminals and criminals who do not know about them. Criminal profiles are sometimes referred to as criminal profiles, character biographies, criminal profiles, or criminal investigation analyses. (Ramsland, Katherine)

The geographical profile is another way of praising criminals. The FBI has conducted so-called "criminal investigations" against it, led by television programs such as Profiles, Laws and Procedures: Criminal Intentions, Criminal Minds, and The Silence of the Lambs of 1991. (Ramsland, Katherine) In addition to these triggers, we should consider other behavioural factors. According to Morris and Albert, the biological basis of behaviour is a very complex topic, with various theories. Several different theorists have made false claims, although the question remains whether biological processes affect thoughts, feelings and behaviour. Some principles are essential in determining how offenders think, feel, and understand their feelings and conduct with this information. This is excellent news as it sheds light on the subject and explains how criminal intelligence works. When reading the brain, one must look at the various key components, and when it comes to crime profiles, the narrator must understand all aspects of the brain to understand the offender fully.

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